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Royalton Dec. 27.

My dear, dear Sister Mary,

Your letter of the 4 made me both sorry & glad. I was rejoiced to hear from you, for I was feeling that the long, long since I had heard from you — I was glad to hear of that dear babe; & you will remember that he is the Lords. I think often, and often, of him but with peculiar emotions. I believe the Lord will accept our offering and if his life is spared, use him as an instrument in the advancement of his cause. But O what responsibility rests upon a parent! I sometimes as if it was left for the parent to say whether their offspring should serve God here, and enjoy him through the ceaseless ages of eternity, or rebel against him here, be a curse to the world, and sink forever in unutterable woe. Who is sufficient for these things! — — —

I particularly rejoiced my heart to learn that you were encouraging the remnant of your former labours. My dear Sister will we ever be discouraged? if we do I think we must strangely shut our eyes against the goodness and mercy of God, as well as against our own happiness. As to the sorrowful part, let me say to you the most of it was turned into joy by the hope that I might be enabled to make you glad wherein you have had sorrow. I would not make you sorry, I am sure, to comfort you, and am almost confident that I can; but you will remember that I am a little Sister, and although my attempt may be feeble one, you will regard it as kindness — — — — — — — and suppress to you the feelings of my heart, with childlike simplicity.

When my dear Sister I must say it made me sorry to learn that a wish, even were it but a faint one, to detain me. I cannot that you indulge it, and trust that ere this it is a stranger to your breast. Suffer me to lead you back to the time when I was an enemy to God, and you were agonizing for my conversion: pleading with him to pluck me as a brand from the burning. O how it must grieved you when looking at the goodness of God manifested towards me

Dec 29. I enjoy comfortable health — his behind us nearly half our time. I have been but little disposed to write, but as I promised as to have done so I will endeavor to write a few lines. Our house has been full of company, and I have had my hands full. Please write soon. Love to all.

to [illegible] see me entirely insensible in regard to all [illegible] and not you save the
his condescension, death & sufferings. Did I see clear & many did so
now to see me rejecting his love, despising his condescension,
[illegible] heartlessly by his death & sufferings, and wasting
blood? O did you not then feel that if the Lord would make
ment of his mercy it would be enough? — How high should
ers note of praise. I & the Hope that we have that the Lord heard
and ever since that instance of distinguished grace has it
your passage, "And glorify thyself with that sister, give her the
dear Son. make her willing to deny herself, and take up
thou shalt exalt." I have hoped that this was ... the prayer
dear friends — also that I had unreservedly given me to the
humbly trust that I am his, that he has bought me with
it is strange, strange indeed that a God of perfect holiness
t justice could take pleasure in rescuing a worm so
richly deserved death! a speck in his creation, yet one that
most wickedly to rebel! Oh what was it that induced
notice me, and above all to suffer me to call him "My Father!"
is all that we can say "Even so Father for so it seemed good in
." — Are we a redeemed family? Let us look at the expense of
ours! Shall we, can we fear to trust ourselves in the hands
who has done so much for us? and can we withhold from him
ices? if we are not our own, but are bought with a price, shall
that we serve our master, if he will suffer us to labour just
part of his vineyard that we would select?
such service be acceptable in the sight of a holy God? — would it
table return for his unmeasured blessings? Surely not.
him our all. — — You say my dear Sister, that it makes
heart sink within you, to think of the state of suffering
trial upon which I am about to enter. — Sister, the Saviour
call upon me to forsake him: on the contrary he promises
with me, to abide with me, to shield me from danger, to
refuge in time of trouble, to hide me in his pavilion in
trouble, to be a present help &c. "Fear thou not, for I am

with thee, be not dismayed, for I am thy God. I will
yea I will help thee. Yea I will uphold thee with the
my righteousness. For I the Lord thy God will hold thy
saying unto thee, Fear not, I will help thee." — "As
frame, he remembers that I am but dust." — One heart
ing that is touched with the feelings of our infirmi
ties, rather knows, must know mine & since I know in
what mettled will be necessary to pursue with
heaven. Our dear Saviour has [illegible] us that "In world we
tribulation," but he is merciful [illegible] Be of good cheer, for
world — And dear Sister [illegible] remember that we
may be partakers of his holiness; then if you saw me a
to a furnace, above its wonted heat, would you, co
God for her, do not hurry her! Jesus not only bids
himself to pardon us — to visit us with affliction & mercy
may purify us, — but at the same time gives us the hon
privilege of labouring with him. His Father has pro
the heathen for his inheritance, and now will he see
him in gaining this inheritance! May I unworthy
I also, hope to be the instrument of leading one heathen
to prevail upon one soul to serve the worship of idols, an
to worship the living God to seek in the heart of
wells of sin & death? — May I hope to meet in heaven
whom salvation I have been used as an instrument, tho
unworthy? Oh how glorious the thought! But how glorious a
unworthy as I am to indulge it. I feel that I ought, ev
fail, and labour accordingly — When dear Sister let me go, g
unreservedly to Jesus. You will not, you cannot fear to tr
hands, — he will not give me one unnecessary stroke.
is a tender, compassionate Saviour — You will say
your heart, "Lord, [illegible]" and let your prayers follow me.
be saved from trial, — but that the dear Saviour will always
be with — and give me his spirit — make me like himself
I can look forward with calmness, trust & confidence. My d

[illegible]ration can I find for distrust when I view the subject as I ought. I must say to you I am enabled to rejoice. My uniform feeling is that I could not have my path altered. I often fear that the Lord will cast me aside as a vessel in which he can take no delight, an instrument which he cannot use— but when I view his dealings with me, even to the present time, I am enabled to hope that he will [illegible] to labor in his vineyard— — But without grace I can

nothing. The cord which binds you my dear sister & yours, together with all my dear friends is strong, Yet I would love the dear Saviour better, & so much better as to rejoice ~~the~~ in following him unhesitatingly— I have tried to tell you the feelings of my heart— I love to pour them into a dear Sisters bosom— forgive me if I have said anything or in any instance forgotten that I was a younger Sister— — Please write soon, and make me glad— — Oh let us not indulge in unbelief— — Much love to friends in G. particularly all the members of your dear family— ~~I~~ I feel so clear it seems as if I could almost reach him. I know I should love him too much were I permitted to live with him. —